auxiliary belt. This adjustment can therefore be carried out safely and rapidly.

See also Figs. 2, 8 and 9 for a depiction of this arrangement.

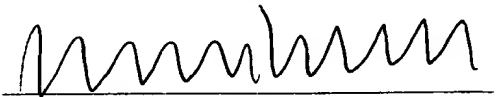
Reconsideration is accordingly respectfully requested, for the rejection of the claims as anticipated by or unpatentable over BENSON et al. 3,309,981, alone or in view of NARAMURA 5,549,040. Whether alone or in combination, neither of these references nor any proper combination thereof teaches the feature discussed above. Instead, they are merely representative of the prior art and suffer the drawbacks of the prior art pointed out in our specification.

In view of the present amendment and the foregoing remarks, therefore, it is believed that this application has been placed in condition for allowance, and reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims. The attached page is captioned "VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE."

Respectfully submitted,

YOUNG & THOMPSON

By 

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January 6, 2003

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

Claim 2 has been amended as follows:

2. (amended) Conveyor belt system according to Claim [1] 15, wherein the coupling means (23) are connected to one and only one central control element (24).

Claim 3 has been amended as follows:

3. (twice amended) Conveyor belt system according to Claim [1] 15, wherein each support comprises a ramp mechanism, which ramp mechanisms (14, 15) are connected to one another by means of a pull element (25) to provide relative movements in each ramp mechanism, which movements are associated with adjustment movements transverse to the base frame (4) and auxiliary frame (6).

Claim 11 has been amended as follows:

11. (twice amended) Oven (2) comprising a conveyor belt system (1) according to claim [1] 15, a tank (34) to hold a quantity of cooking oil and a cover (35) for covering the tank, the conveyor belt system (1) being located in said tank (34).